Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 04063 01 OF 02 071801Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 MMO-04 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /096 W

R 071755Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6233
DEPARTMENT TREASURY
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04063

DEPARTMENT PASS FEDERAL RESERVE

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, GW

SUBJECT: GERMAN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IN JANUARY

REF: CERP 0102

1. TRANSMITTED HEREWITH ARE GERMAN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DATA FOR JANUARY 1977 AND, FOR COMPARISON, JANUARY 1976 AND DECEMBER 1976.

JANUARY DECEMBER 1977 1976 1976

(IN MILLIONS OF DM)

EXPORTS 19,792 18,442 24,274

IMPORTS 17,807 15,948 20,999

TRADE BALANCE 1,985 2,494 3,275

SUPPLEMENTARY TRADE ITEMS -383 -44 -265

TRADE BALANCE (INCLUDING

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PAGE 02 BONN 04063 01 OF 02 071801Z

 SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS 1,602
 2,450
 3,010

 SERVICES
 -550
 -682
 -347

UNILATERAL TRANSFERS -1,100 -1,454 -1,785 BALANCE OF INVISIBLES -1,650 -2,136 -2,132 CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE -48 314 878

LONG-TERM CAPITAL

DIRECT INVESTMENT -288 151 -297

 PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT
 -752
 279
 71

 CREDITS AND LOANS
 193
 75
 -1,032

 OTHER
 -71
 -71
 -40

OFFICIAL 12 852 13

BALANCE OF LONG-

TERM CAPITAL - 905 1,286 -1,285

SHORT-TERM CAPITAL

COMMERCIAL BANKS -563 477 3,565 PRIVATE NON-BANKS 237 -1,548 -1,391

OFFICIAL -284 -163 - -971

UNRECORDED TRANSACTIONS 1,131 -253 -1,112

BALANCE OF SHORT-

TERM CAPITAL 521 -1,487 91

DM REVALUATION

LOSS/DEVALUATION PROFIT -- -- -7,489

NET FOREIGN POSITION OF

BUNDESBANK (INCLUDING

REVALUATION LOSS/

DEVALUATION PROFIT- -432 113 -7,805

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PAGE 01 BONN 04063 02 OF 02 071802Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 MMO-04 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 /096 W

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04063

2. ON A SEASONALLY ADJUSTED BASIS EXPORTS AND IMPORTS IN JANUARY INCREASED ONLY SLIGHTLY ABOVE THE AVERAGE LEVE IN NOVEMBER/DECEMBER. EXPORTS ROSE BY 0.2 PERCENT AND IMPORTS BY 0.6 PERCENT. THE SLIGHT INCREASE FROM DECEMBER TO JANUARY IN THE SERVICES DEFICIT REFLECTED

HIGHER GERMAN TOURIST EXPENDITURES ABROAD. THE DECLINE IN THE TRANSFER BALANCE WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SLIGHTLY LOWER WAGE TRANSFERS OF FOREIGN LABORERS AND THE FACT THAT IN JANUARY GERMAN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH THE EC WERE ROUGHLY IN BALANCE. IN DECEMBER, PAYMENTS EXCEEDED REVENUES BY ABOUT DM 0.6 BILLION.

- 3. THE LONG-TERM CAPITAL DEFICIT BASICALLY REFLECTED DM 0.5 BILLION OF SALES BY FOREIGNERS OF GERMAN BONDS AND DM 0.4 BILLION OF PURCHASES BY GERMANS OF FOREIGN BONDS. THE BUNDESBANK ATTRIBUTED BOTH DEVELOPMENTS TO THE RELATIVELY LOW INTEREST RATE LEVEL PREVAILING IN THE FRG.
- 4. THE DEFICIT IN THE SHORT-TERM CAPITAL ACCOUNT WAS A REACTION TO SEASONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN DECEMBER (SEE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BONN 04063 02 OF 02 071802Z

BONN 2840). IN JANUARY, GERMAN BANKS RE-EXPORTED A PART OF THE FUNDS WHICH HAS IMPORTED IN DECEMBER FOR WINDOW-DRESSING PURPOSES. GERMAN FIRMS, ON THE OTHER HAND, RE-BORROWED FUNDS FROM ABROAD WHICH HAD BEEN REPAID IN DECEMBER DUE TO WINDOW-DRESSING DESIRES OF THE LENDING FOREIGN BANKS.

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